

REMARKS

In the Office Action of 18 December 2003, the Examiner indicated that Claims 12-18 contain allowable subject matter but they are objected to as being dependent from a rejected claim. In an Amendment mailed on 17 June 2004, Applicant amended these allowable claims so that they no longer dependent from a rejected claim. In particular, Claim 12 was amended into independent form.

On further review, it became apparent to Applicant that some of the dependent claims did not have proper antecedent support in the claims from which they depend or that, otherwise, they did not completely set forth the subject matter intended to be claimed. Accordingly, Applicant is now filing this Amendment in order to clarify the subject matter intended to be claimed. Support for the subject matter inserted into Claims 13, 15, 16 and 17 may be found in the written description at page 4, line 1, through page 5, line 17.

Shortly after mailing the Amendment of 17 June, Applicant noticed that portions of Claim 12 that should have been underlined were not underlined and noticed also that there was a typographical error in Claim 13. Applicant corrected these errors by a paper titled "Supplemental Response" mailed on 24 June and officially filed on 30 June. On 14 July, the Legal Instruments Examiner issued a "Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment" with respect to this Supplemental Response. The alleged non-compliance was the failure of Applicant to include a complete listing of all of the claims. In response thereto, Applicant submits that the document in question was not an Amendment under Rule 121, but rather a correction to the Amendment previously mailed on 17 June; this previous Amendment did contain a listing of all the claims.

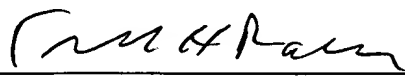
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Serial No. : 09/877,438
Filed : June 8, 2001
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P2141US00

Applicant submits that, with the current Amendment, all the claims remaining in this application are in condition for allowance. Favorable action is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 27 July 2004



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